



## REQUEST FOR QUOTATIONS – SERVICE CONTRACT

### CONSULTANCY ON WASTING PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT SUPPORT TO LAC

Closing Date: Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2025, at 23:59, EST/Toronto time.

#### BACKGROUND

The Global Nutrition Cluster is an initiative for the mutual benefit of the nutrition community, and affected populations, to improve the quality of nutrition in emergency preparedness, response and recovery. The technical arm of the GNC Operations Team, called the GNC Programme Team, is co-led by Action Against Hunger Canada and UNICEF. The GNC Programme Team exists to provide on-demand technical expertise to improve nutrition outcomes in emergencies, both remotely and in-country. GNC Programme Team services are available to any nutrition actor including governments, national and international NGOs, UN agencies, Red Cross/Crescent Societies and others.

Acute malnutrition, including wasting and/or nutritional oedema, is one of the most severe forms of malnutrition and a significant contributor to mortality in children under five years of age. Globally, severe acute malnutrition (SAM) accounts for nearly 1 million child deaths annually. Children with wasting face heightened risks of infections, stunting, and mortality, underscoring the urgency of addressing this issue comprehensively.

In Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC), approximately 700,000 children under five were affected by acute malnutrition in 2023, including 200,000 cases of SAM. Efforts to prevent and manage child wasting in the region have been hindered by limited institutional and community capacities, limited or outdated data on wasting, insufficient awareness of the issue, and lack of or outdated protocols in many countries. Addressing these challenges requires a strategic and coordinated approach. The child wasting agenda has gained interest globally thanks to the publication of new WHO guidelines regarding the prevention and management of child wasting in 2023.

The publication of the results of a stocktaking study on child wasting in LAC2 is expected to increase the awareness on the need to update the current protocols in line with global standards and obtain wasting data in LAC but also highlight the need to prevent wasting. In that regard, UNICEF has updated in 2024 the global Community Infant and Young Child Feeding (C-IYCF) Counselling Package to support efforts to equip community health workers with the relevant skills needed to support recommended breastfeeding and complementary feeding practices using an interactive and experiential adult learning approach that enhances counselling, problem solving, negotiation and communication skills. The translation and adaptation of the C-IYCF counseling package is a key step towards preventing wasting and other forms of malnutrition in LAC.

UNICEF's Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean (LACRO) is committed to advancing these strategic priorities by supporting country offices in implementing evidence-based interventions and updating national protocols and tools. Taking into account the global and regional momentum, UNICEF LACRO is requesting support to the GNC to provide assistance to contribute to knowledge-sharing, capacity development, and advocacy efforts to ensure resource mobilization and prioritization of wasting prevention and management in LAC within national and regional frameworks. This work will play a critical role in fostering readiness at the country level to address wasting and ensuring alignment with global best practices and strategies.

## OBJECTIVE

The GNC Wasting Prevention and Management Advisor will work closely with the UNICEF LACRO Nutrition Specialist, in collaboration with UNICEF-HQ and other partners, to develop a set of technical and advocacy materials, develop the UNICEF action plan on the prevention and management of child wasting in LAC, and develop and facilitate a webinar to take forward the wasting prevention and management agenda in LAC in the coming months.

## SERVICE DESCRIPTION

Detailed Terms of Reference (ToR) for this support are currently being finalised. They will likely include the following activities:

	Activities	Deliverable	LoE	Modality
1	<p>Provide technical inputs and contributions to the finalization of two key documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• One policy brief, based on the qualitative findings from the regional stocktaking study, focusing on the barriers to implementation of wasting management in the region. Support will include finalizing the content, designing the layout and selecting appropriate visuals.</li><li>• One manuscript, derived from the regional stocktaking study on wasting, to be finalized and submitted to a scientific journal for publication. Support will be provided to ensure the manuscript gets as far along in the publication process as possible by mid-December 2025.</li></ul>	One policy brief and one manuscript submitted based on the regional study on wasting management	20 days	Remote
2	<p>In collaboration with UNICEF headquarters and other relevant LACRO sections, provide technical inputs to the development of the UNICEF action plan for the prevention and management of child wasting in LAC, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Background and purpose</li><li>• Theory of change</li><li>• SMART objectives and quick wins</li><li>• Workplan including key activities and priority countries</li><li>• A focus should be placed on knowledge-sharing, capacity development (including protocol development), update and implementation, advocacy efforts to ensure resource mobilization, and supply.</li></ul> <p>The action plan will be based on the regional stock-taking study on wasting management.</p>	UNICEF action plan on the prevention and management of child wasting in LAC	30 days	Remote
3	<p>In collaboration with UNICEF headquarters and relevant UN agencies, design and deliver a capacity-building webinar targeting LAC countries, including government, UNICEF and nutrition partners, on wasting prevention and management, specifically to present the latest WHO guideline and its specificities, provide guidance on the process of updating/developing the protocols, and on their implementation, including shared country experiences.</p>	Design and delivery of one webinar on wasting prevention and management, including webinar slides and report	5 days	Remote

4	Prepare the end of assignment brief report documenting lessons learnt, achievements, challenges, and recommendations to advance the wasting prevention and management agenda in LAC.	End of assignment report	2 days	Remote

The above-mentioned activities include time to participate in coordination meetings and other activities and discussions with LACRO sections, country offices and partners as needed and prepare inputs for these.

## TIMELINE

The duration of this remote support is 6 months with estimated LOE of 57 days. Looking to start in late June, 2025.

## PROFILE

### QUALIFICATIONS & EXPERIENCE

#### Required

1. Postgraduate degree (Master or PhD) in Nutrition, Public Health and/or other relevant to the objective of the ToR
2. Professional technical knowledge and expertise in public health nutrition with an emphasis on wasting prevention and management and infant and young child feeding
3. At least 10 years of practical country experience in the LAC region on wasting prevention and management and its operational implications
4. Experience in developing nutrition-related strategies and action plans
5. Experience in developing capacity-strengthening events, including webinars, for diverse audiences

### KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND OTHER ATTRIBUTES

#### Required

1. Ability to manage and coordinate efforts from multiple stakeholders for a common purpose and build consensus
2. Technical proficiency spanning the design and delivery of training materials, coupled with the ability to conduct capacity-building activities for a diverse range of stakeholders
3. Highly developed writing skills – both at a programmatic level (contextual analysis reports, action plans) and a policy level (policy papers, guidance notes)
4. Strong communications skills (both written and verbal) at a level appropriate for high-level external representation and presentations
5. Strong interpersonal skills: ability to liaise with a wide range of people at different levels and across different cultures and to act with credibility and diplomacy
6. Self-motivated and able to work with a high degree of autonomy, with strong time management skills
7. Fluency in Spanish and English is required; knowledge of other regional languages is an asset.

*Candidates with previous work experience in the country, or familiarity with the context, will be given preference..*

## DUTY STATION/LOCATION

The consultant will provide remote (home-based assignment). He or she may be required to apply flexible working hours.

## SUPERVISORS

The consultant will be supervised by both the GNC Operations Team Coordination Unit and the in-country requestor (UNICEF LAC Regional Office)

## CONTRACT MODALITY

Fixed-term deliverable-based contract.

Applications are open to individuals.

## HOW TO APPLY

Proposals responding to this RFQ should include:

- Updated CV.
- Cover letter detailing experience in conducting similar work.
- Three references for which you have conducted similar work.
- Daily rate for service. Please provide your quotations in Canadian Dollars (CAD).

Signed Action Against Hunger Canada Good Business Regulations Form will be required prior to completion of contracting.

Please note: Consultants of the GNC Consultant Roster can simply share their interest via email, with an up-to-date CV and daily rate, and will be prioritized for this work.

Please submit the proposal before Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2025, at 23:59, EST/Toronto time to:  
[procurement@actionagainsthunger.ca](mailto:procurement@actionagainsthunger.ca)

Please highlight “Consultancy on Wasting Prevention and Management Support to LAC” in the subject heading.